

NIEHS Presents: the NIH eRA Commons 101 Workshop

Thursday, July 10, 2003



National Institutes of Health
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services





Commons 101: Agenda

- Introductions
- What is CGAP? What is Grants.gov? What's the difference?
- What is NIH eRA Commons?
- Current Status of NIH eRA Commons – Overview of Modules
- How to Register for NIH eRA Commons
- Introduction to the Commons Demo Site
- Overview of current applications
 - IPF – Institutional Profile Maintenance
 - PPF – Personal Profile Maintenance
 - Status – Information on Grants and Applications
 - eSNAP – Electronic Progress Report Submission
 - FSR – Financial Status Reporting
 - Wrap-up and Q&A
 - Preview of Next Release and other “coming attractions”



Introductions:

Tim Twomey

Chief, eRA User Support Branch

Scarlett Gibb

Chief, eRA Communications and Outreach Branch

Mark Siegert, Cathy Walker, Tracy Soto

eRA System Analysts

Paul Jordan

NIEHS Information Technology Specialist



Competing Grant Application Process

- CGAP: NIH's implementation of the electronic 398 and other NIH applications
 - Not specifically a part of NIH eRA Commons
- Grants.gov: Government wide storefront for all grant applications



CGAP Objectives 2003

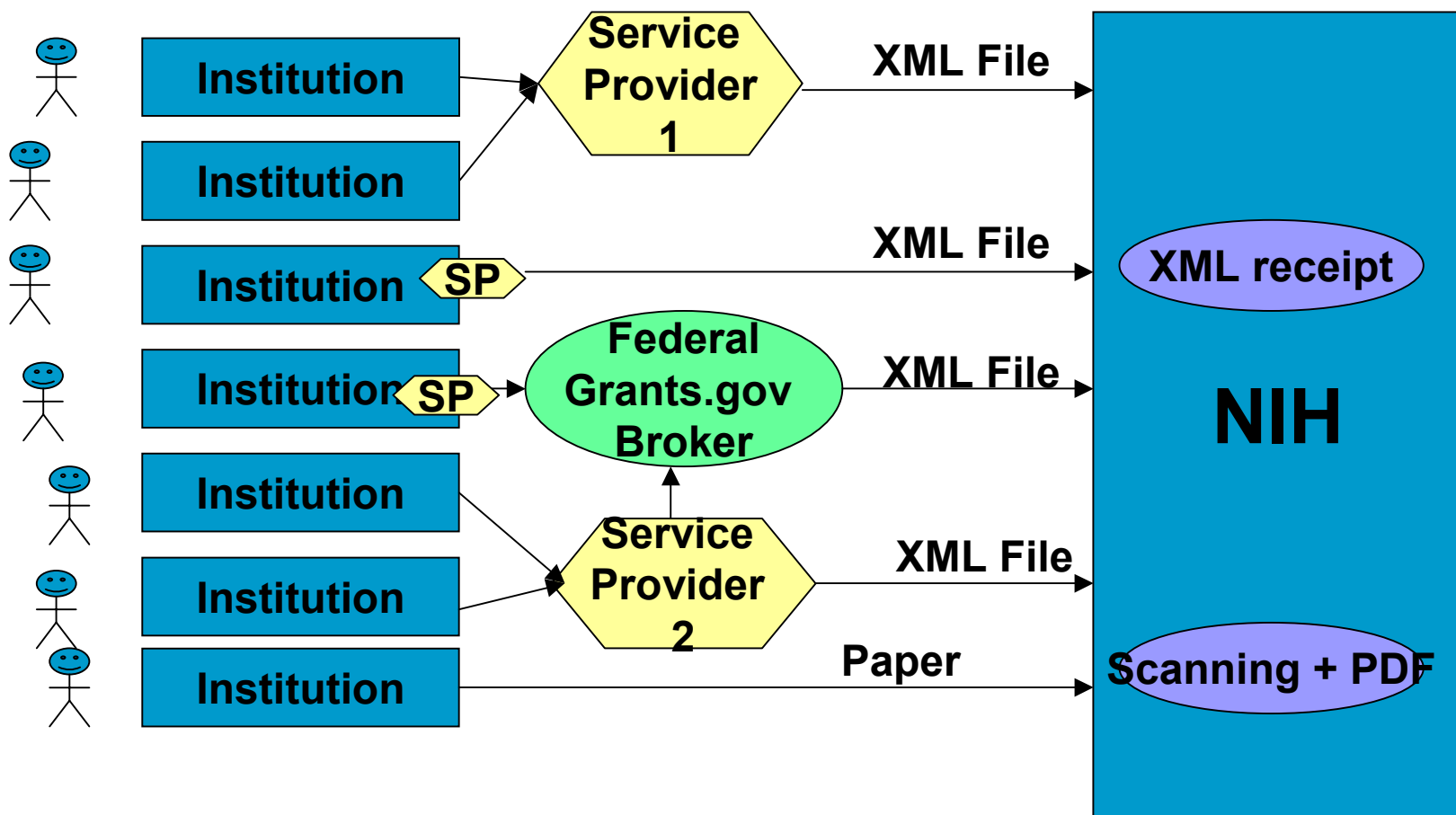
- Receive electronic grant applications (R01) as an XML stream (XML files and PDF files)
- Process e-applications through Receipt and Referral at NIH without printing
- Define requirements for downstream processing of e-applications (Review, Program, Grants Management, etc.)



How: eRA Exchange

- **Computer to computer** information exchange; no front-end
 - In-coming applications and requests
 - Out-going messages and status updates
- XML as the technology for structured data
- PDF for text and graphics

Current: Multi-Source Receipts





Target Time Table (current)

- **Phase 1:** Now to end of January 2003
 - Standard XML documentation, technology and application receipt flow
 - *Inception, tech architecture and analysis*
- **Phase 2:** February - June 2003
 - Application receipt and validation
 - *Build and test the receipt of XML stream*
- **Phase 3:** July - August 2003
 - Business to Government flow and interchange infrastructure
 - *Complete Design and build Business to Gov exchange*
 - *Pilot*
- **Phase 4:** August – November 2003
 - Integration with bi-directional communications on IPF, PPF, FSR and potentially other requests
 - *Build out the integrated system for e-Applications : Test and Gradual introduction*

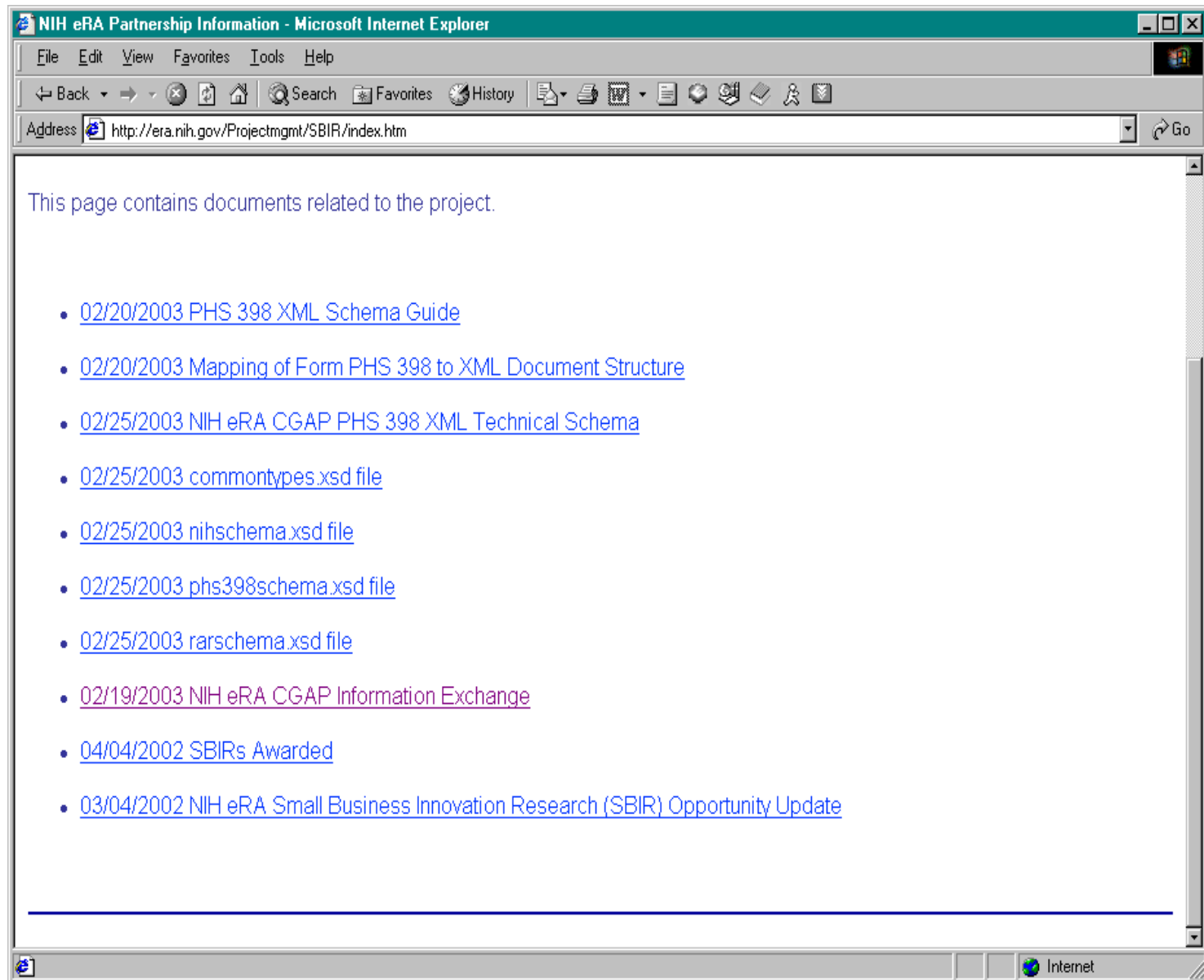
Coordination with Grants.gov

- E-Grants hired development contractor (Northrop Grumman, AT&T, Ekagra)
- Monthly coordination meetings
Grants.gov – NIHD (Dr. McGowan, Jim Cain, Charlie Havekost, Deputies)
- eRA staff participates in the Grants.gov team





CGAP Info on eRA Website





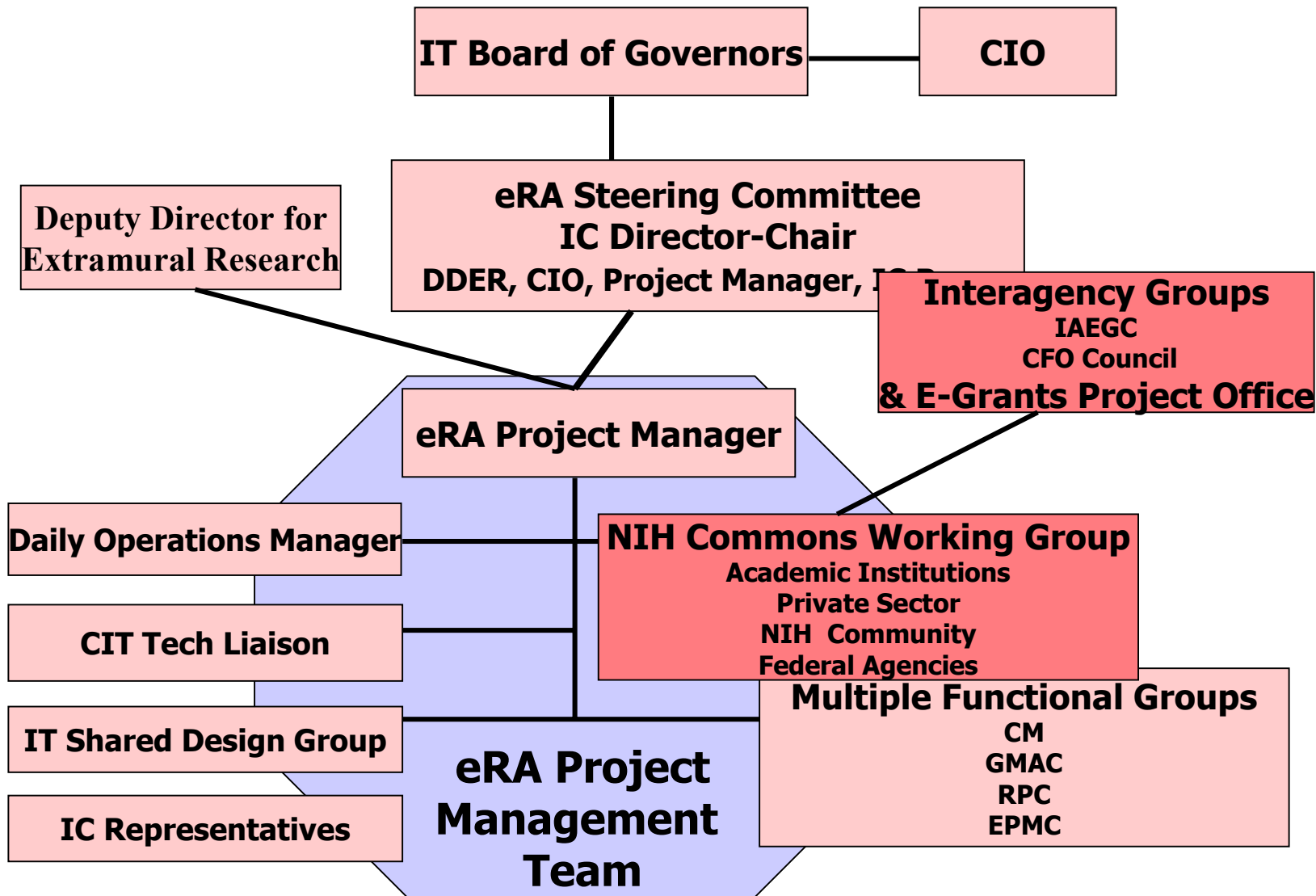
NIH Electronic Research Administration (eRA)

■ What is eRA?

- electronic Research Administration (eRA) is NIH's infrastructure for conducting interactive electronic transactions for the
 - Receipt,
 - Review,
 - Award,
 - Monitoring, and
 - Administration of NIH grant awards to biomedical investigators worldwide.



NIH IT Project Management





Commons Working Group (CWG)

eRA feedback from the extramural community

- Definition of user requirements
- Definition of future priorities
- Assistance with testing and deployment
- Contact George Stone or David Wright at NIH

Representatives from 18 institutions

- Diverse skills
 - ☐ 14 Research Administrators
 - ☐ 6 IT Technologists
 - ☐ 4 Active Research Faculty
- Diverse institutional representation
- Check eRA Website for listing

NIH eRA Objective:

Full Electronic Grants Administration

Applicant/Grantee Interface – NIH Commons

225,000,000
Pieces of Paper

NIH Grants Database Interface – IMPAC II

1.6 million transactions daily

NIH Institutes and Centers

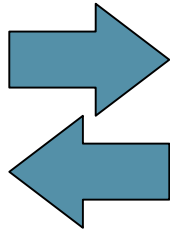
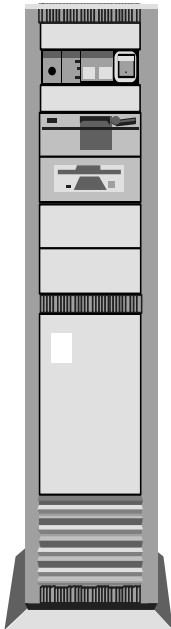


eRA Concept of Operations 1998

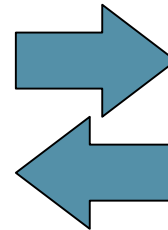
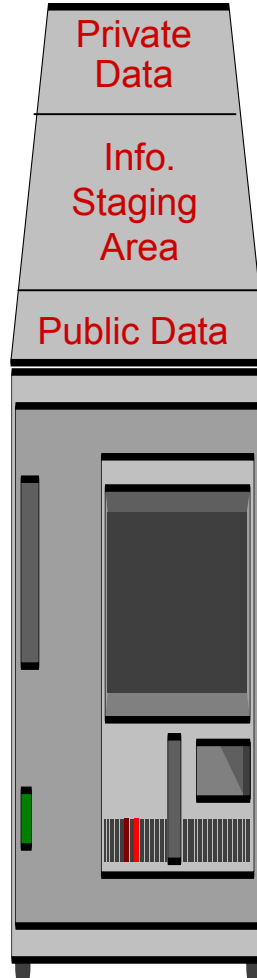
Extramural Research Community



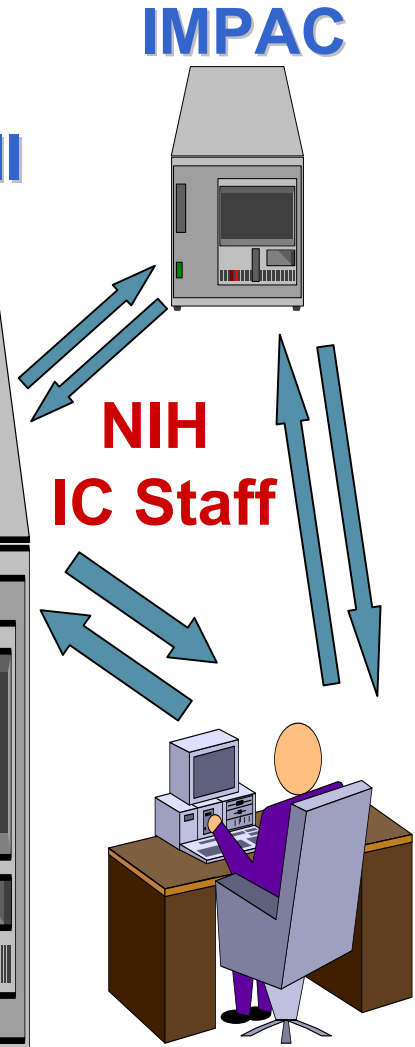
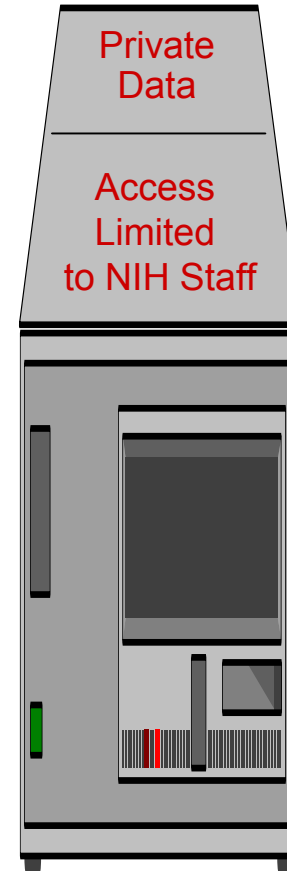
- Institutional Offices
- Applicants
- Researchers
- Reviewers
- Public



NIH Commons



IMPAC II

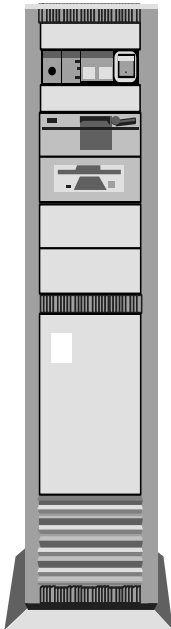


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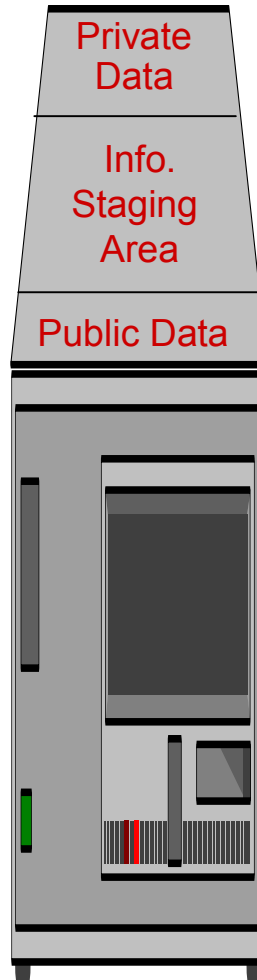
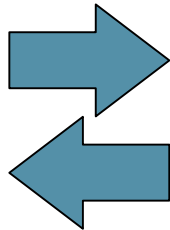
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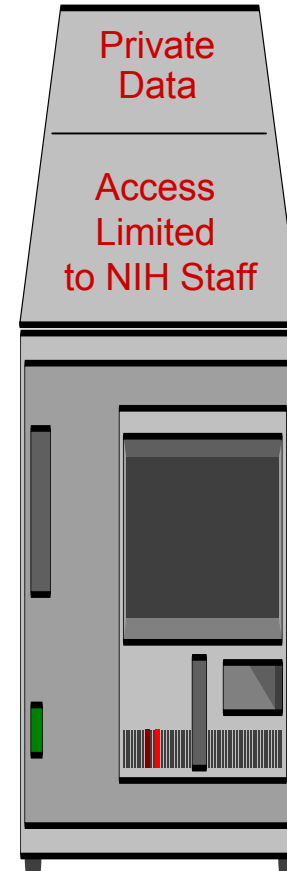
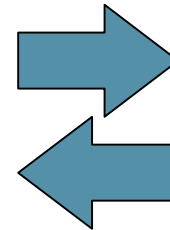
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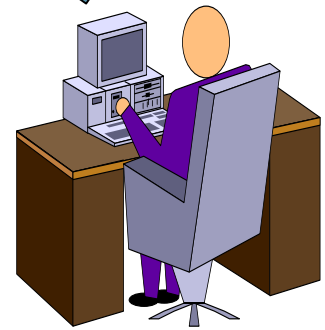
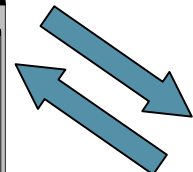
NIH Commons



IMPAC II



NIH IC Staff

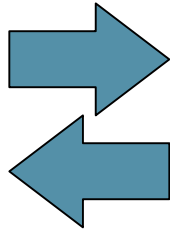
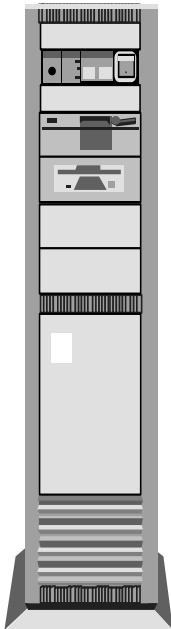


eRA Concept of Operations 2003

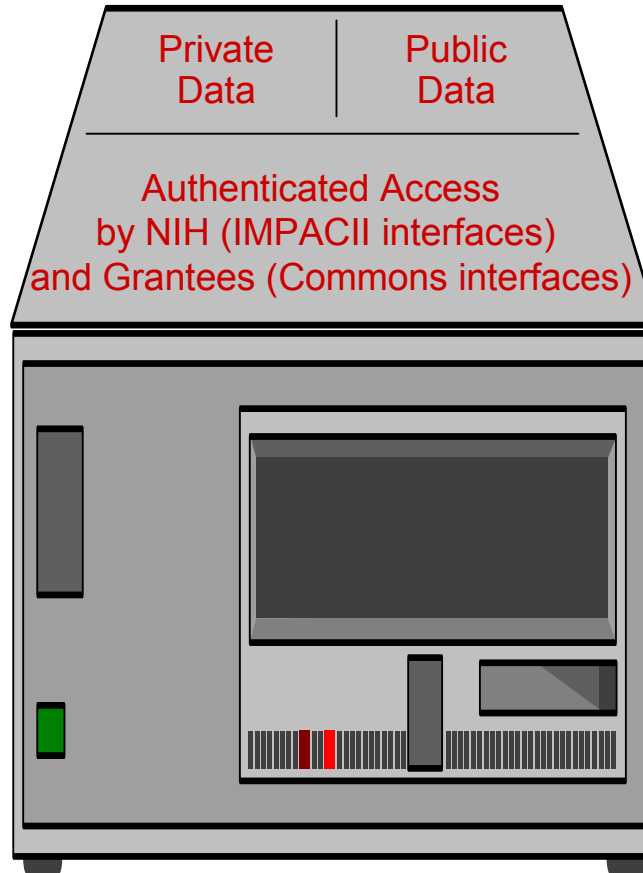
Extramural Research Community



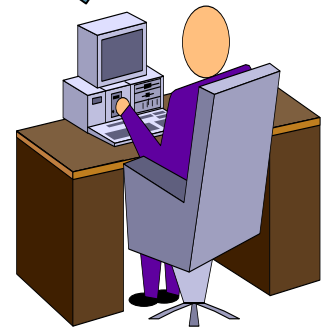
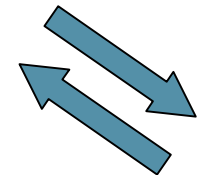
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eRA Data System



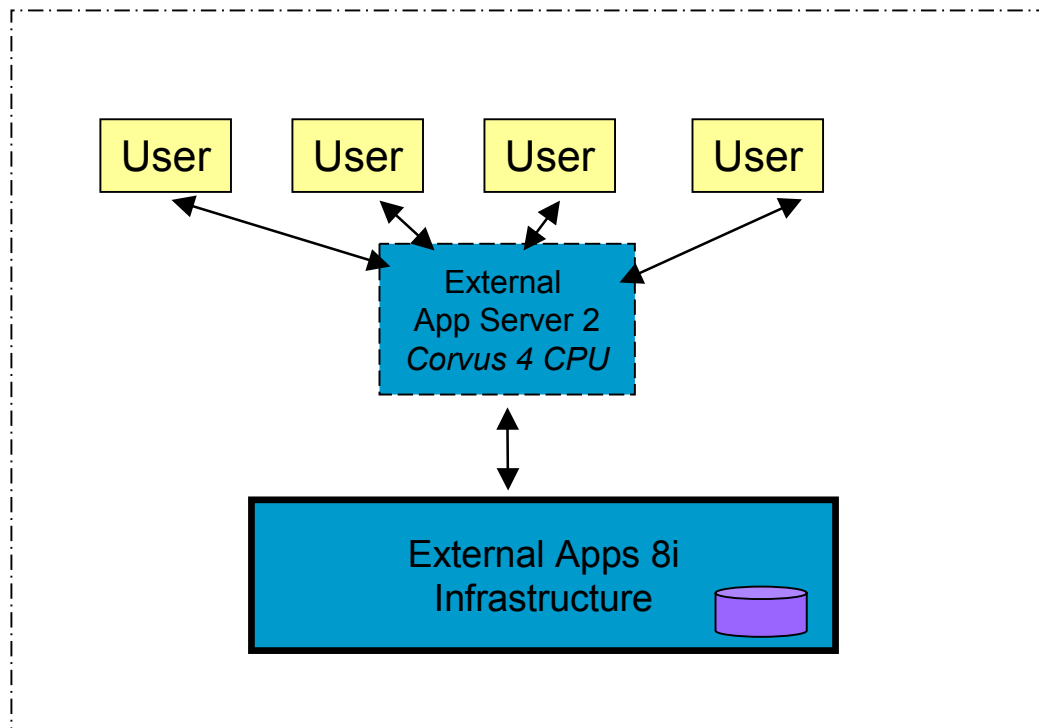
NIH IC Staff





Web Configuration

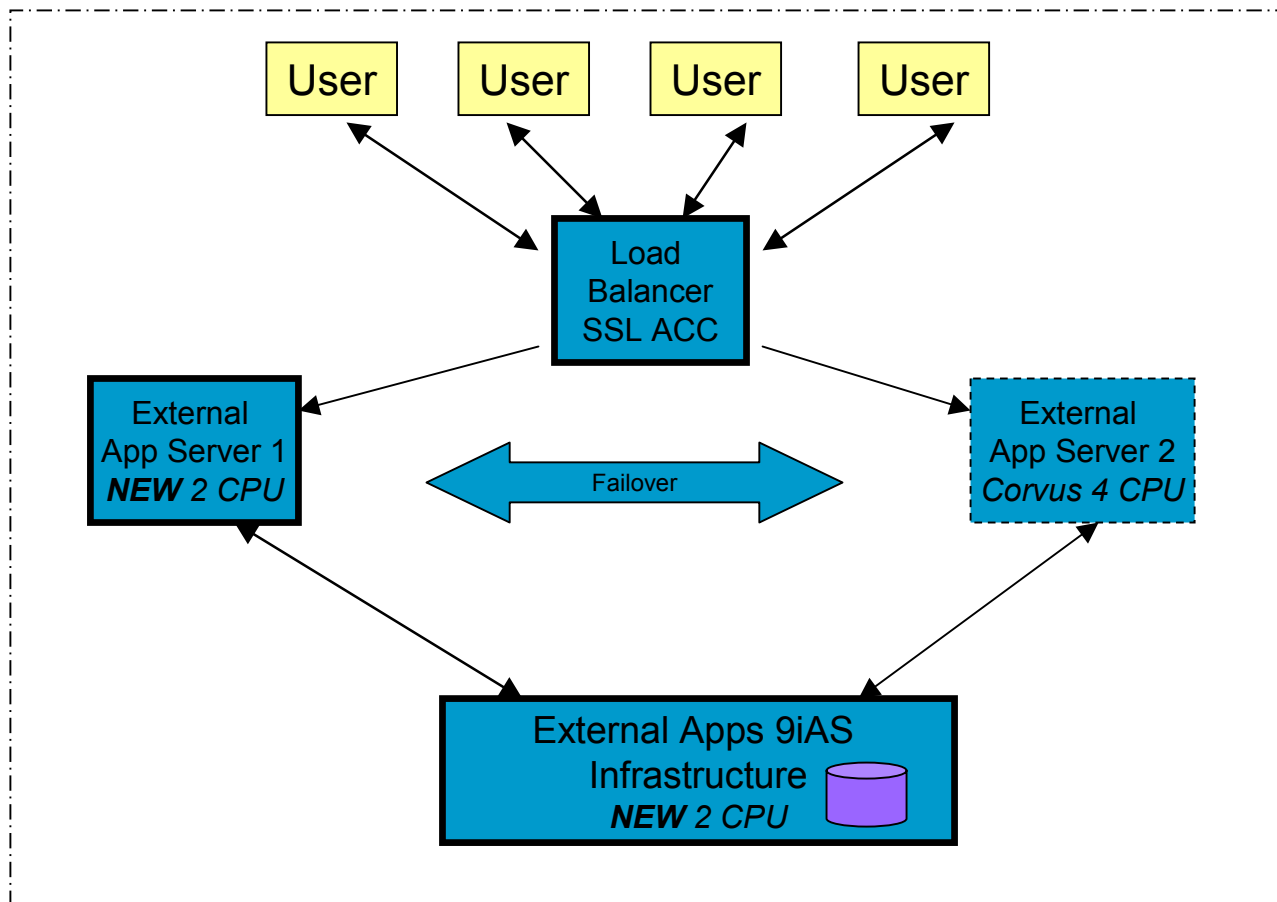
eRA Commons Production 2002





Current Web Configuration

eRA Commons Production 2003





NIH Electronic Grants Administration Components

Unrestricted Interfaces

- NIH and OER Web Sites - <http://www.nih.gov/grants>
- CRISP on the Web – Awards Database – <http://crisp.cit.nih.gov>

Restricted Interfaces – <http://commons.era.nih.gov>

- Commons Registration – Initial set-up for organizations
- Accounts Administration – User account maintenance
- Application/Award Status – Monitor grant applications & awards
- Institutional & Professional Profiles (IPF & PPF)– Maintain repetitive information about institutions and investigators
- Competitive Application(CGAP)– Competing Grant Application
- Trainee Appointments (X-Train) – Trainee Appointment maintenance
- Submission of non-competing progress reports (e-SNAP)
- Financial Status Report (FSR)
- Internet Assisted Review (IAR)
- Interagency Edison (iEdison) – Invention Reporting



Current Status of NIH eRA Commons

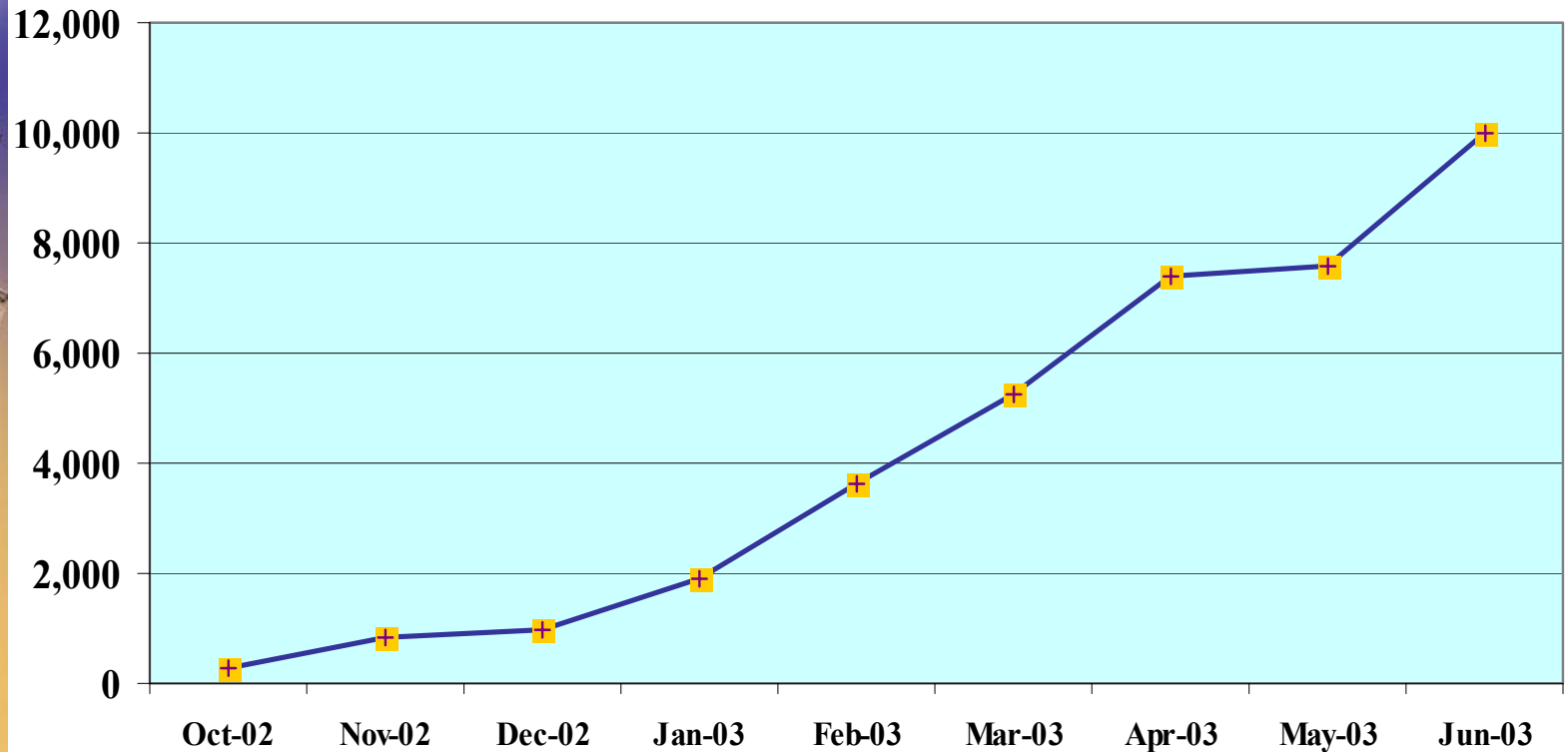
■ Registration/User Information

- Over 54,000 total log-ins
- Over 400 organizations
- Over 3,600 user accounts
- Over 1,600 PIs

*Note: All data as of 7/5/2003



eRA Commons Logins by Month





Uncommon Commons Modules

- CRISP – NIH Awards Database
 - Records include all awards 1972 - 2003
 - 32,000+ CRISP queries per week
- Interagency Edison – Invention Reporting
 - 450 grantee/contractor organizations
 - Reporting for 18 Federal Agencies using common site
 - New interface released 6/28/2003



eRA Commons Modules

■ IPF (Institutional Profile)

- Organizations maintain their own information
 - Address, DUNS, Org Hierarchy
 - Assurances
 - Other Contact Info (NGA, Notifications, etc.)
- Currently in full production

■ PPF (Personal Profile)

- People maintain their own information
 - Single Point of Ownership
 - Multiple Address Information
 - Degree Information
 - Publication Information
- Currently in full production



eRA Commons Modules

■ Status – Full Production Now

- Access level dependent upon roles
- Priority Scores/Percentile information *
- Link to on-line documents
 - Abstract
 - NGA
 - FSR
 - Summary Statement *
 - eApplication **
- NIH contact information
- Link to Study Section information
- Availability of pre-populated forms for renewals

■ More to come

*PI Only

** PI and SO only



eRA Commons Modules

■ **FSR (Financial Status Report)**

- Replaces mainframe TSO system
- Search for grants based upon due date
- Submit new/revised FSR
- View FSR status (due, late, received etc.)
- Submitted FSRs appear in “Status”
- Integrates with NIH accounting system
- Over 9,000 FSRs processed (2,000 in June)
 - Over 4,500 from external users
 - Over 180 grantee organizations participating
 - Currently in full production



eRA Commons Modules

■ IAR (Internet Assisted Review)

– Reviewers may

- Electronically submit critiques and preliminary scores prior to the meeting
- Review the critiques submitted by others on-line
- Modify their critiques after the meeting

– SRAs may

- Manage meetings and Reviewer's IAR access via Control Center
- Designate applications as lower half (triage)
- Download preliminary summary statements generated from submitted critiques

– In Pilot by 16 SRAs, 45 Review Meetings

– 487 IAR accounts created

– 3,900 critiques uploaded

– Full production 8/1/2003

eRA Commons Modules

- **eSNAP (Streamlined Progress Reports)**
 - Improved interface and workflow
 - Additional 15 days allowed for submission
 - Delegated submission to PI possible
 - 234 eSNAPs submitted (140 Awarded)
 - 21 grantee organizations participating
(currently limited to CWG members and a few others)
 - Completed system due 8/1/200
 - Expanded deployment through Fall 2003
 - Full deployment Winter 2003



eRA Commons Modules

■ xTrain (Trainee Appointments)

- Submission of new and re-appointment 2271s
- Very limited production
- 23 grantee organizations participating
- Approximately 300 submissions
- Using Commons 1 technology today
- New improved System due Fall/Winter 2003
 - J2EE technology (like the rest of Commons)
 - Terminations
 - Personal Profile Interface



eRA Commons Deployment Schedule

■ Highlights Calendar Year 2002

- Deployed new NIH Commons platform, architecture and Base Systems (Oct '02)
- Deployed new NIH Commons interface
- Deployed eSNAP pilot (Nov '02)
 - Implemented Changes in SNAP Business Process
- Deployed Internet Assisted Review (IAR) Pilot (Dec '02)
- Deployed Financial Status Report (FSR) (Pilot Nov '02; Production Jan '03)



eRA Commons Deployment Schedule

■ Calendar Year 2003 Plans

- ✓ Improved Performance (Winter/Spring)
- ✓ Enhanced Architecture (Spring)
- ✓ Demo Facility (Spring)
 - Full deployment IAR (Summer)
 - Deploy X-Train V 2.0 (Fall)
 - eNotification (Fall)
 - CGAP Pilot (Fall)
 - Full deployment eSNAP (Fall/Winter)



eRA Commons Deployment Schedule

- Version 2.0.0.0 - 10/11/2002
- Version 2.1.0.0 - 11/01/2002
- Version 2.2.0.0 - 12/06/2002
- Version 2.2.1.0 - 01/10/2003
- Version 2.2.2.0 - 03/24/2003
- Version 2.2.3.0 – 08/01/2003
- Version 2.3.0.0 – 11/01/2003
- Version 2.3.1.0 – Spring 2004



eRA Commons Deployment Schedule

- Version 2.2.2.0 - 03/24/2003
 - Enhanced Demo/Training Facility
 - Improved Account Administration
 - More UI enhancements for eSNAP
 - Expanded IAR pilot
 - Performance Improvements



eRA Commons Deployment Schedule

- Version 2.2.3.0 - 08/1/2003
 - Human Subjects Reporting in eSNAP
 - Enhanced Personal Profile Information
 - eNotification for T5 progress reports
 - IAR full deployment
 - Other fixes/enhancements



eRA Commons Deployment Schedule

- Version 2.3.0.0 - 11/01/2003
 - “New” xTrain 2.0
 - Expanded eSNAP deployment
 - “No Cost Extensions”
 - Improved Query and Reporting
 - Just-in-Time submission
 - Other cool stuff



Commons Demo



Coming Attractions

- Pop Tracking in eSnap
- Status Search Screen
- Status Hit List
 - No Cost Extensions
 - Just-in-Time
 - Close out information



Training-Support-Outreach

- On-line/content sensitive help
- User Guides (pdf)
- “Cheat Sheets”
- FAQs and other resources
- Enhanced Demo/Training Site
- Computer Based Training



Training-Support-Outreach

National/Regional Meetings 2003

- March - Commons Workshop Houston, TX
- April - NIH Regional Seminar Palo Alto, CA*
- April – SRA Southern Section Memphis, TN
- April - NCURA Region 4 Cincinnati, OH
- April - SRA Northeast Section Providence, RI
- February - FRA IV New Orleans, LA
- June - NIH Regional Seminar Baltimore, MD*
- July - NIEHS Commons 101 RTP, NC
- October - SRA International Pittsburgh, PA*
- November - NCURA National Washington, DC
- Others - TBA

(* hands on labs)



Training-Support-Outreach

- **NIH eRA Helpdesk**

(866) 504-9552 (Voice -Toll Free)

(301) 402-7469 (Voice - Local)

(301) 451-5675 (Fax)

(301) 451-5939 (TTY)

- **EMAIL**

Commons application problems

commons@od.nih.gov

All Other questions

askera@od.nih.gov



Training-Support-Outreach

Web Sites:

- Commons Home Page
<http://commons.era.nih.gov>
- eRA Home Page
<http://era.nih.gov>
- Commons Support Page
<http://era.nih.gov/commons/>

Revamp of websites is underway...



Training-Support-Outreach

Other important Web Sites:

- Grants.gov Program Management Office
<http://www.grants.gov>
- Inter-Agency Electronic Grants Committee
<http://www.iaegc.gov>
- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance
<http://www.cfda.gov>